

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully submit the following new claims, Claims 15-18, which are deemed to clearly and unambiguously define patentable subject matter in view of the previously cited prior art represented by Colgan, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,831,710, the latter of which is commonly assigned to the present Assignee, and wherein the Examiner has considered at least Claim 7 as being fully anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102; whereas various of the remaining claims have been considered to be unpatentable over Colgan, et al. in view of Haven, EP 011 306 4 A1, as submitted in the original Information Disclosure Statement.

However, applicants respectfully submit that the present application and the newly presented claims clearly and unambiguously provide for patentable subject matter, not at all disclosed nor suggested in Colgan, et al., and providing for an improvement in protection and the sealing in of the liquid crystal display, so as to prevent the latter from being contaminated by adhesive or sealing material passing between a wall-like structure encompassing the liquid crystal display area.

Reverting to Colgan, et al., applicants note that the wall-like structure is of a height extending the full height of the gap between first and second substrates, which are arranged in a superimposed spaced relationship.

In order to provide for an improved flow of the seal member, as the latter spreads through the gap which is present between the wall structure segments 25 of the present wall-like structure, which is of a height lower than the gap between the first and second substrates, there is encountered a capillary phenomenon, which will improve the flow characteristics of the seal member 4. This is clearly emphasized in the specification on Page 7, wherein the

widening of the gap of the wall-like structure 5 in that the latter is of a height which is lower than the gap between the substrates provides for a capillary phenomenon which will inhibit the flowing out of the seal member 4 at the gap portion or spacing of the wall-like structure 5 relative to the substrate. This particular capillary phenomenon is also described on page 19 of the specification relative to the method of producing the present invention, and wherein the gap formed by the lower height wall member 25 and the opposite facing substrate produces a capillary phenomenon causing the seal member to be inhibited from entering the display area directly and to thereby prevent any deviation in the alignment between the components and the seal member.

Consequently, there is also formed an air trap, which will prevent undue flow of the seal member into the area defined by the liquid crystal display.

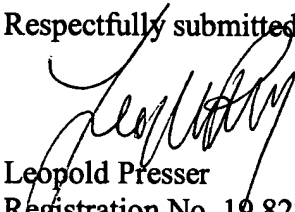
The foregoing structure is not at all disclosed in Colgan, et al., wherein the wall structure extends the full height between the facing spaced substrates, and the only flow is between the adjacent wall structure components. The capillary phenomenon, which provides for the enhanced stopping of the seal member pursuant to the present invention is not at all disclosed nor suggested in Colgan, et al.

The foregoing is also applicable to Haven, EP 011 306 4 A1, which also discloses wall members extending the full height between superimposed spaced substrate layers.

Consequently, the newly presented claims, all of which emphasize this particular distinction in providing a lower height for the wall-like structure relative to the gap which is present between the first and second substrates is directed to allowable and clearly novel subject matter, irrespective as to whether the art is considered singly or in combination.

In view of the foregoing comments and submission of the new and clearly précised claims, the early and favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application by the Examiner is earnestly solicited. However, in the event that the Examiner has any queries concerning the instantly submitted Amendment, applicants' attorney respectfully requests that he be accorded the courtesy of possibly a telephone conference to discuss any matters in need of attention.

Respectfully submitted,



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